



□

## WellAhead Summary for BC Pilot Districts

43-Coquitlam  
48-Sea to Sky

61-Victoria  
67-Okanagan Skaha

70-Alberni  
92-Nisga'a

## WellAhead

**Imagine if we unleashed all schools' full potential to foster the social-emotional wellbeing of children and youth.**

Apart from the home, schools are the most influential setting for child and youth development. Adding wellbeing to an already packed schedule can be a challenge, so school communities are looking to find new and creative ways to integrate wellbeing within their existing daily practice.

In the 2015-16 school year, WellAhead – a philanthropic initiative of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation – will take six BC school districts through a community-led process that will bring multiple stakeholders together to identify ways to integrate wellbeing into school communities.

### Everyday Practices

- The focus this year is on how “everyday practices” can lead to greater integration of wellbeing in schools
- Everyday practices are sustainable approaches to advancing student wellbeing that don't cost a lot, that fit naturally within the role of schools, and that build upon assets and strengths.

### Approach

- WellAhead draws upon a social innovation lab framework, which includes three core elements:
  - *Co-design*: Bringing multiple perspectives – educators, administrators, students, parents and community partners – together to brainstorm solutions
  - *Prototyping*: Implementing a set of everyday practices in schools, evaluating their effectiveness, and understanding how change happens in schools
  - *Scaling*: Sharing what we learn broadly to influence practice, policy, and public opinion.

### Values

- Collaboration
- Mass Participation
- Collective Ownership
- Transparency
- Emergence

### How to Get Involved

Over the next few months, there will be multiple opportunities for parents, educators, youth, administrators, and community partners to be involved in the co-design phase:

- Share your insights on wellbeing in schools or the WellAhead process (ongoing)
- Join an information session (Sept 2015)
- Join a brainstorming event (Oct 2015):

**Session #1: Tues, October 20 7pm-9pm**  
**Winslow Centre, Gallery Room**  
Register: [dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca)

**Session#2: Wed, October 21 7pm-9pm**  
**Minnehada Middle**  
Register: [dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca)

- Give input through an online public input platform (Nov 2015) Info to follow.

For more information on how to get involved, contact your local WellAhead Community Liaison, Darren McMillan, at [dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca).